

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-24. (Canceled)

1                   25.   (Previously Presented) A method of detecting liquid, the method  
2 comprising:  
3                   providing a material;  
4                   using the material to absorb the liquid;  
5                   detecting a change in material characteristic while the liquid is absorbed by the  
6 material; and  
7                   generating a signal in response to said change in characteristic.

1                   26.   (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the material characteristic is  
2 size.

1                   27.   (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the material characteristic is  
2 color.

1                   28.   (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the material characteristic is  
2 conductivity.

1                   29.   (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the material characteristic is  
2 capacitance.

1                   30.   (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the material characteristic is  
2 weight.

31-35. (Canceled)

1                   36.     (Original) A method of detecting liquid, the method comprising:  
2                   detecting a change in size when the liquid is absorbed by a capillary material; and  
3                   generating a signal responsive to said change in size of the capillary material.

1                   37.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the fiber includes  
2     a capillary fiber.

1                   38.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the material  
2     includes a capillary material.

1                   39.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the fiber includes  
2     a capillary fiber.